U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employees' Compensation Appeals Board

In the Matter of WILLIAM LONG <u>and</u> DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, St. Paul, Minn.

Docket No. 96-2382; Submitted on the Record; Issue July 23, 1998

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DECISION and **ORDER**

Before GEORGE E. RIVERS, MICHAEL E. GROOM, A. PETER KANJORSKI

The issue is whether appellant met his burden of proof to establish that he sustained a back injury in the performance of duty on March 2, 1995.

The Board has given careful consideration to the issue involved, the contentions of appellant on appeal, and the entire case record. The Board finds that the decision of the hearing representative of the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs dated and finalized July 15, 1996 is in accordance with the facts and the law in this case and hereby adopts the findings and conclusions of the Office hearing representative.

The decision of the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs dated and finalized July 15, 1996 and the decision of the Office dated November 20, 1995 are affirmed.

Dated, Washington, D.C. July 23, 1998

> George E. Rivers Member

Michael E. Groom Alternate Member

A. Peter Kanjorski Alternate Member